

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-21 are pending in this application. Claims 3, 4, 9, 10, 12, 14, 18, and 19 have been resubmitted. Claims 1, 2, 13, 20, and 21 have been amended. Claims 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 15, 16, and 17 have been canceled.

The Examiner rejected Claims 1, 13, and 21 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hubner in view of Bennett et al.

The Examiner rejected Claims 2, 3, 5, 10, 14, 15, and 19 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hubner and Bennett et al. ('440) in view of Bennett et al. ('664).

The Examiner rejected Claim 4 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hubner, Bennett et al. ('440), and Bennett et al. ('664) in view of Ma et al.

The Examiner rejected Claim 6 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hubner, Bennett et al. ('440), and Bennett et al. ('664) in view of Rozman.

The Examiner rejected Claims 7 and 16 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hubner, Bennett et al. ('440), Bennett et al. ('664), and Rozman, and further in view of Ma et al.

The Examiner rejected Claims 9 and 18 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hubner, Bennett et al. ('440), and Bennett et al. ('664) in view of Kalman et al.

The Examiner rejected Claim 12 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hubner, Bennett et al. ('440), and Bennett et al. ('664) in view of Jiang.

The Examiner objected to Claims 8, 11, 17, and 20 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim.

Allowable subject matter

The Examiner stated that Claims 8, 11, 17, and 20 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 1 has been amended to include all of the limitations of Claim 11, and Claim 11 has been canceled. Claims 9, 10, and 12 depend from Claim 1, which is now in allowable form. Claims 9, 10, and 12 have been resubmitted.

Claim 2 has been amended to include all of the limitations of Claim 8 and the intervening Claims 5, 6, and 7. Claims 5, 6, 7, and 8 have been canceled. Claims 3 and 4 depend from Claim 2, which is now in allowable form. Claims 3 and 4 have been resubmitted.

Claim 13 has been amended to include all of the limitations of Claim 17 and the intervening Claims 15 and 16. Claims 15, 16, and 17 have been canceled. Claims 14, 18, and 19 depend from Claim 13, which is now in allowable form. Claims 14, 18, and 19 have been resubmitted.

Claim 20 has been amended to include all of the limitations of the base claim, the original Claim 13, and is now in independent form. An added claims

fee has been incurred, since the number of independent claims has been increased from four to five.

Similarly to the amendment to Claim 1, the allowable limitations have been added to Claim 21.

Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections under 35 USC 103(a) of the various claims made in the outstanding Office Action are hereby rendered moot by the above amendments.

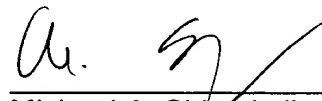
CONCLUSION

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the Office Action with respect to Claims 1-4, 9-10, 12-14, and 18-21 are requested.

In the event the examiner wishes to discuss any aspect of this response, please contact the attorney at the telephone number identified below.

Respectfully submitted,

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